APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/981,392	10/17/2001	Shell S. Simpson	10007682-1	7709

7590	09/21/2006

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Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER
BATURAY, ALICIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action *Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief*	Application No. 09/981,392	Applicant(s) SIMPSON, SHELL S.
	Examiner Alicia Baturay	Art Unit 2155

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED <u>07 September 2006</u> FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

    a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

    b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

        Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because

    (a)☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

    (b)☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);

    (c)☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

    (d)☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

        NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

    The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

    Claim(s) allowed: *None*.

    Claim(s) objected to: *None*.

    Claim(s) rejected: *1-46*.

    Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: *None*.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will <u>not</u> be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome <u>all</u> rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: <u>See Continuation Sheet.</u>

12. ☒ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). 08102006

13. ☐ Other: _____.

SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

Applicant Argues: "Adamske in view of Savoray does not teach or suggest if the destination service contains the particular symbol set and if the destination service is instructed to produce the printable version of the represented image, then forwarding the printable version of the represented image to the destination service and then producing the represented image including the predetermined graphic symbol under interactive control by the client program, where the particular symbol set identifies mapping characteristics for producing the predetermined graphic symbol on the represented image."

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits that the combination of Adamske and Savoray teaches if the destination service contains the particular symbol set and if the destination service is instructed to produce the printable version of the represented image (the document will be held at the web-server until all designated signatories have signed and verified the signatures), then forwarding the printable version of the represented image to the destination service (At that point, web server will release the document for delivery to destination printer) and then producing the represented image including the predetermined graphic symbol under interactive control by the client program (Accordingly, the hard copy delivered to the recipient(s) will have all required signatures upon delivery - see Adamske, col. 9, lines 19-28). Adamske does not explicitly teach mapping a graphical symbol to a symbol set.   However, Savoray teaches where the particular symbol set identifies mapping characteristics for producing the predetermined graphic symbol on the represented image (the conversion of the signature raster image into a font by "hinting"...hinted image is saved to a secure electronic signature file in a font format - see Savoray, col. 4, lines 39-46).

Applicant Argues: "Claim 17 recites 'where, if the client program accesses a destination service that contains the particular symbol set, a proxy graphic symbol is displayed in place of the predetermined graphic symbol, the proxy graphic symbol when displayed providing affirmation that the particular symbol set is contained in the destination service,' which is not taught or suggested by the cited art. For example, Shima contrastly discloses the use of a proxy symbol when a printer is unable to render a resource. Diversely, claim 17 recites the use of a proxy graphic symbol when the client program contains the particular symbol set."

In Response: The examiner respectfully submits that the combination of Adamske, Savoray and Shima teach where, if the client program accesses a destination service that contains the particular symbol set, a proxy graphic symbol is displayed in place of the predetermined graphic symbol, the proxy graphic symbol when displayed providing affirmation that the particular symbol set is contained in the destination service (the printer may be additionally provided with the function of printing a resource of a file format which can be rendered by neither another device nor the printer itself, by handling the resource as a blank or replacing the resource with another suitable proxy image - see Shima, col. 10, lines 40-46). The examiner respectfully submits that Shima does not preclude the printer from containing the particular symbol set, but just that the printer might not contain the software to render the symbol set properly.